

WHIP 7 – POND

FOTG Practice Code 378

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this practice is to establish a source of water for wildlife.

B. PROGRAM POLICY

Apply this practice within croplands, pastures, hay lands, idle grassy areas, or woodlands where year-round surface water supplies are insufficient to meet wildlife needs.

C. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for cost share, this practice shall:

- Be the only source of year-round surface water available for wildlife within 1,500 feet of the proposed pond site.
- Improve wildlife habitat benefits to an acceptable level.
- Prevent degradation of environmental benefits.
- Be maintained for the expected lifespan of the practice.
- Be included in the approved Wildlife Habitat Development Plan.

D. COST-SHARE POLICY

Eligible practice components for this practice shall be determined needed by NRCS and specified in an approved Wildlife Habitat Development Plan. This practice shall be cost shared at a rate to meet the minimal needs of the NRCS Wildlife Habitat Development Plan.

Eligible Components

Earthmoving

Minerals

Eligible Seed

Mulch

Temporary Cover

This practice has a cost-share dollar limit not to exceed \$2,000 provided to an applicant per pond.

Temporary cover will be eligible under one of the following conditions: (a) determined needed until required seeds or plant stock is available; (b) needed because normal planting period for the species has passed and erosion problems may occur; (c) needed because of a soil condition such as chemical residue that will not allow establishment of cover immediately.

E. REQUIREMENTS

The following are requirements for this practice:

1. The constructed pond shall not be directly accessible to domestic livestock. Surplus water may be delivered to a livestock tank or trough below the dam site at landowner's expense.
2. All disturbed areas including dam, shoreline, and within pool area shall be seeded immediately after construction activities are completed.
3. The seeded area shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of the Long-Term Contract.
4. A current soil test is required for all permanent, herbaceous plantings.

F. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Consider other resource and environmental concerns (e.g., cultural, wetlands, etc.) as prescribed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other applicable laws and regulations when establishing this practice. A TN-CPA-25 must be completed for each WHDP.

G. PRACTICE MAINTENANCE

This practice shall be maintained without additional federal cost share for the expected lifespan of the practice. Cost share shall be refunded, if either of the following applies:

1. Participant destroys the cover or structure during its lifespan; or
2. The cover fails to provide the desired wildlife benefits during the life of the WHIP Contract, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the participant's control.

H. TECHNICAL RESPONSIBILITY

NRCS shall have technical responsibility for this practice.

I. SPECIFICATIONS

Requirements	Temporary cover is authorized within the pool area of the pond as well as the dam and spillway. Apply the NRCS FOTG standard for Critical Area Planting for seeding of dam and spillway.
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If needed, apply mulch as recommended by the NRCS FOTG conservation practice standard Code 342.

Design Pond shall be constructed in accordance with Pond standard and specifications (378) in the FOTG.

Seedbed Hard-pack areas shall be disked at least twice prior to seeding.

<u>Eligible Seeds or Plants</u>	<u>Seeding Rates (per acre)</u>	<u>Seeding Dates</u>
Switchgrass with	10.0 lbs. (PLS ^{1/})	Apr. 15-July 1
*Kobe/Korean Lespedeza	5.0 lbs.	
Switchgrass	15.0 lbs. (PLS ^{1/})	Apr. 15-July 1

Temporary Cover – Summer

Millet, Browntop	40.0 lbs.	May 1-July 1
Millet, Foxtail	20.0 lbs.	May 1-July 1
Sudangrass	30.0 lbs.	Apr. 1-July 1
Sudan Hybrids	30.0 lbs.	Apr. 1-July 1

Temporary Cover – Winter

Winter Wheat	1.5-2 bushels	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
Cereal Rye	1.5-2 bushels	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
Annual Ryegrass	20.0 lbs.	Aug. 15-Oct. 15

^{1/} PLS = Pure Live Seed

* Japanese millet may be substituted in wetter areas.